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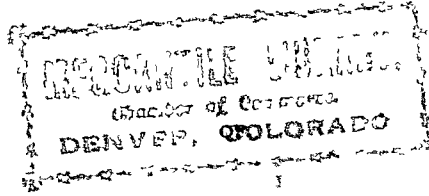
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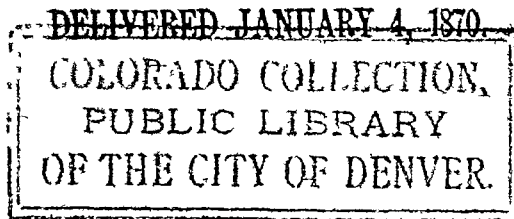
BIENNIAL MESSAGE



GOVERNOR E. M. MCCOOK,

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF COLORADO.



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1870.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

MESSAGE OF GOVERNOR E. M. M'COOK,

DELIVERED TO THE LEGISLATURE OF COLORADO,

JANUARY 4th, 1870.

Fellow Citizens of the Council and House of Representatives:

Custom has devolved upon me the duty of communicating to you the condition of our Territorial affairs. This duty I shall discharge as briefly as possible; and in the beginning of our official intercourse I desire to assure you that you will have my earnest co-operation in the discharge of those important duties, and the advancement of those public interests which the people of the Territory have confided to your care.

FINANCES.

The finances of the Territory are in a most satisfactory condition. We are out of debt, and have a surplus of over twenty-seven thousand dollars in the Treasury.

I call your attention to the various suggestions made in the Auditor's report, and respectfully recommend the ap-

pointment of a Legislative Commission whose duty it shall be to adjust those discrepancies between the accounts of the Territorial Auditor and Treasurer, which arose during the year 1867, and have never yet been satisfactorily reconciled. The law already makes the Auditor the general accountant of the Territory, and the keeper of all public account books, accounts, &c. It seems to me that in order to insure a faithful and intelligent discharge of his arduous duties, he alone should be responsible for the expenditure of all money paid out of the Territorial Treasury.

It has been found impracticable to keep a proper check on the Treasurer, or a satisfactory record of public accounts, while any other than the officer whose duty it is to audit such accounts, is permitted to draw money from the Treasury, without first passing the drafts through the hands of the Auditor. I would also ask your attention to the suggestion of the Auditor concerning semi-annual settlements of County Treasurers. Some legislation should be devised to compel a prompt settlement of their Territorial accounts, and also to insure a uniform method of keeping the same.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

It is a source of profound congratulation to the citizens of Colorado, that during the past year the Territory has been entirely free from the incursions of wandering bands of hostile Indians. For the first time in many years, the miner, the ranchman and the herdsman have been permitted to pursue their avocations in peace; and there is reason to hope that another year will see a cessation of the petty annoyances which have from time to time been inflicted by the presence of peaceful Indians in our midst. The benevolent policy of the President has already given proof of the wisdom that dictated its inauguration, in the increased security to life and property upon our borders, and will, I believe, finally result in the absolute exemption

of the whites, as well from the horrid atrocities of savage warfare, as from the insufferable nuisance of periodical peaceful visits. The inception of a new system and a new policy I have found attended with many difficulties, for no race is so jealous of its rights, so tenacious of established customs, and so insensible to gratitude, as the Indian; and while, under the wise administration of my predecessor, treaties were made with the Utes, providing reservations for their future homes, and securing appropriations for the erection of agency buildings, yet so far, the provision made for supplying their wants has not proved a sufficient inducement to keep them on their reservation, and lead them to abandon their precarious mode of living. The experiment of colonizing them is an experiment still; but I have faith in its success, and believe that so soon as the Indians find that they have a home where all their wants will be supplied through the fostering care of the government, they will be willing to accept of the situation, and free the settled portions of the Territory forever from their presence. The task imposed upon this department is a thankless one; and I need not remind you, gentlemen, who were the pioneers of civilization in Colorado, and who have a thorough understanding of Indian character, of the difficulties in the way of every attempt to awaken energies that have slumbered for ages, or to overcome pernicious habits induced by centuries of unrestricted freedom and demoralizing indolence. This is a question which deeply concerns the welfare of every citizen of the community; and one upon which depends the peace, prosperity and security of the Territory. Since the discovery of America, Indian wars have been the inheritance of every succeeding generation; and, from Massachusetts to California, every State and Territory of the Union has experienced the horrors of savage hostilities, and been built upon a foundation of blood and suffering. I know that every good citizen is inimical to the repetition of these scenes, but I am satisfied that attempts are

being made by designing adventurers to create such dissatisfaction among the Indians belonging to this Territory, as may possibly lead to future outbreaks; and as the laws of Congress are defective in this particular, I would recommend that such laws be enacted by the present Legislature, as will insure the punishment of this class of offenders, if it be possible to frame a law of sufficient severity to provide retribution for a crime so horrible.

THE RESERVATION SYSTEM.

Although the reservation set aside by the treaties comprises a large and valuable portion of the Territory, which if opened to white settlers would undoubtedly attract emigration, and add to our material wealth, yet as a most effective measure of peace, we are bound to respect the stipulations of the treaties and preserve the faith of our government, which is pledged to a policy that secures justice to the Indians. They have been given the exclusive occupation of these lands; and although it may be impossible, during the present generation, to teach them all the arts of civilized life and to change a race of vagrant consumers into producers of the elements of wealth, yet I believe that much can be done towards realizing the intentions of the government by maintaining a kind and liberal policy towards those who show themselves our friends, and pursuing a firm and relentless one towards such as prove our foes. In peace, we of the Territories find our prosperity, and another year's freedom, like the past, from savage incursion, will, I believe, double our population. It may become possible, in the future, to restrict the Indians to so much land for each member of a tribe as will give him a support when devoted to agricultural or pastoral purposes, and thus allow the remainder to be thrown open for settlement. If anything *can* teach the friendly Indians of our Territory the benefits of civilized life, this *will*; and the direct contact with civil-

ization, which would follow the dismemberment of his tribal relations, might accomplish for the individual Indian, what the best efforts of the government has failed to do, so long as tribal organizations have been recognized, and the idea of self-dependence ignored.

I hope the day is not far distant when Congress will be convinced of the justice of reimbursing those who have suffered in property from Indian outbreaks. It seems to me that it should be a sacred duty of that body to make good the losses incurred by individuals from these depredations.

I have devoted more space to this familiar topic than I otherwise should, because your interest and the interest of every citizen of the Territory is a deep and personal one in all matters pertaining to the Indian policy of the government; to the fulfilment of which policy I pledge my earnest endeavors, and ask for such co-operation as you can give, in my administration of the affairs of this important department.

UNORGANIZED TERRITORY.

In the reorganization of the counties of Pueblo, Huerfano, and Las Animas, at the last session of the Assembly, a large district of country lying south of Douglas, and east of El Paso counties, was inadvertently left unattached to any county, and without civil organization. Early in April last, three colored men, soldiers of the United States, viz.: Giles Lidle, Marshall Williams and John Murray, were arrested by the Marshal of the Territory, upon complaint that they had murdered one Crevier, at or near Big Springs, and within the district of country before referred to. Subsequently, upon an examination had before the Judge of the third judicial district, it was ruled that although the laws of the Territory were effectual within the before-mentioned district, for the punishment of crime, yet as that region had not been incorporated into any county, there was no court invested

with the necessary jurisdiction to try the prisoners; consequently they were committed to await the action of the Legislative assembly. For the punishment of these and other alleged offenders against the criminal law in that region, as well as to provide for the proper administration of the civil law hereafter, it will be necessary to incorporate that district into some county. There is also a question respecting the expense of keeping the prisoners named, which demands the attention of the Assembly. As the offence was not committed within the limits of any county, of course no county is chargeable with this expense; and it has therefore become a charge upon the Territory, to meet which an appropriation will be necessary.

GENERAL INCORPORATION ACT.

"An act amendatory of 'An act to provide a temporary government for the Territory of Montana,' approved March 2, 1867," provides in section first:

"That the Legislative Assemblies of the several Territories of the United States of America, shall not after the passage of the act, grant charters or especial privileges; but they may by general incorporation acts permit persons to associate themselves together as bodies corporate for '*Mining, manufacturing, and other industrial pursuits.*'"

Would not this law be more just in its application if the Legislatures of the several Territories were permitted to pass *general incorporation acts* without any limitation by Congress as to the purpose or object of the corporation, thus leaving it to the Legislature to impose limitations or not, as they see fit? As this law now stands, I take it that every legal incorporation must be for either a mining, manufacturing, or industrial pursuit, while associations of a financial or beneficial character, such as insurance companies, saving banks, and the like, cannot be incorporated at all; and the citizens of the Territories are compelled to transact all business of this character through

the medium of foreign corporations organized under the laws of other States. It keeps capital from our Territory, which would naturally come here, because of the lightness of our taxation. I am sure Congress never intended to impose such disabilities upon the people of the Territory, and think that a proper memorial from your body would lead to a change in the law.

MILITIA.

I would recommend that the whole of the present military poll-tax provided for by law, be paid into the Territorial Treasury and be devoted exclusively to military purposes, and expended under the direction of the Legislature in such manner as their wisdom may devise. If the collection of this tax could be strictly enforced, it would place at your disposal a fund which in case of emergency would contribute at least something towards the equipment of volunteers for the defence of the Territory.

I call your attention to the recommendation contained in the last report of the Adjutant-General, in relation to the issue of Ordnance and Ordnance Stores. The Secretary of War has officially called my attention to the fact that the Territory has received \$18,845.05 in excess of their quota of arms; and as it is not probable we will be permitted to draw any more for some time, some provision should be made by the Legislature for the custody of the arms already in our possession, and for their issue, under such restrictions only, as will secure their safe keeping and ultimate return.

The record of our Military History during the late war is incomplete. I would suggest the propriety of making some provision for procuring from the files of the Department at Washington, transcripts of such papers as may be needed to prepare a complete history of the services of all Colorado troops. In 1866 one thousand dollars was appropriated for this purpose, but the duty was never per-

formed ; at least, no official record of the fact is on file in this office, or the office of the Adjutant-General. This is the only State or Territory in the Union which possesses no record of the services of those brave men who offered their arms to the Government in its time of need ; and the very smallest tribute we can offer to their patriotism, will be to preserve among the archives of our Territory some fitting record of their services and sacrifices.

The commissioner appointed to settle with the United States and receive any money allowed by the War Department to the Territory or its citizens for military services during the years 1864 and 1865, has submitted his report to me, and it is herewith transmitted ; as the time fixed by law for the payment into the Territorial Treasury of any unclaimed money belonging to this fund will expire before the meeting of another Legislature, it will be necessary to make some provision for disposing of the surplus, or extending the time for the payment of these military certificates.

Although the United States military authorities have promised me that a body of cavalry shall be sent into the Territory early in the Spring to remain through the Summer and Fall, yet I would recommend that some encouragement be given by the Legislature to the formation of volunteer organizations. We need an organized and disciplined body of men, no matter how small in number, who belong to the Territory, and will be ready at all times to respond to the call of the Territory, for defence against the Indians..

ELECTION AND REGISTRY LAWS.

The general election and registry laws should be harmonized one with the other, and with the existing laws of Congress in relation to suffrage. I should think the Legislature would find no difficulty in so simplifying and condensing both these laws, that hereafter many of the minor difficulties which have been experienced in their

administration may be avoided. If practicable, these laws should be so simplified that no misapprehension can possibly arise as to their meaning. In this connection I would call your attention to an act of Congress approved March 3d, 1869, which provides that hereafter the members of *both* branches of the Legislative assemblies of the several Territories shall be chosen for the term of *two* years, and the sessions of the Legislative assemblies shall be biennial. And each Territorial Legislature shall, at its first session after the passage of this act, make provision by law for carrying this act into effect.

The words "not being a negro or mulatto," in the second line of the first section of a Territorial act regulating elections, approved Nov. 6, 1861, should be expunged, as they are rendered nugatory by an act of Congress.

I would also recommend that the Legislature shall distinctly define what shall be deemed a vacancy in the Legislature under the Territorial law of Nov. 6, 1861.

AGRICULTURE, MINING, &c.

I find that the popular belief abroad is, that Colorado is solely a country of mountains and of mines; the fertility of our soil and the great wealth yet to come from it has been overlooked or forgotten in the thought of the sleeping ores yet unclaimed and undeveloped. It is of very little importance what the country is to-day, in comparison with what it will be in the future; our mines make the *present* of the country, but our agricultural and pastoral resources must, to a good extent, constitute the future. The soil is the source of material prosperity. All that can be raised in the temperate zone will grow here in profusion, and the soil and climate are such that the same amount of labor will produce more than in any other portion of the Union. Volunteer crops of *thirty* bushels to the acre have been raised in the northern part of the Territory; and so soon as we have the knowledge

which years of experience alone can give, I believe that no other country can surpass this in the profitable production of cereals.

The grasses throughout the whole Territory are so abundant and nutritious that stock raising is destined to be one of the most essential elements of our permanent prosperity. The natural increase of sheep in the Territory is one hundred, and of cattle nearly eighty per cent. per annum; and as there is almost no limit to the pastoral capabilities of the country, so there should be no limit to the increase of stock. The natural grasses of our hills and valleys are equal in nutritious qualities to the Hungarian or other cultivated grasses of the East; and their abundance is such that the herds of a dozen States could here find pasturage, and the winters are so mild that shelter or hay is unnecessary.

I am satisfied that not only the peach, apple, plum and cherry, but also every variety of grape can be raised in one or the other parts of the Territory; the volcanic soil in the southern portion, will produce a wine-raising grape equal in quality or quantity to that of California or Italy. The rude and unskilled cultivation already attempted, has produced a red wine equal in flavor to some of our imported wines; and I think that with proper care and culture the grape in the southern counties of the Territory will reach the highest perfection, and wine-growing become one of our most profitable industries.

The very complete report of the Agricultural Society furnishes many statistics of general interest, and gives undoubted proofs of the attractions our Territory offer to the farmer and stock-raiser. The value of our crops in 1868 was \$2,683,840.20; in 1869, \$3,150,000.00. The number of acres capable of being placed under cultivation with the present means of irrigation, is estimated at six millions, an amount which gives a productive capacity equal to any of the best and most populous States of the West.

The product of our mines, as shown by statistics, gives a gratifying exhibit of the progress of this branch of our industry. The amount of bullion produced during 1869, is more than double the product of 1868; and although only about one fifth of the product of the mines passes through the mint, the deposits in the Branch Mint at Denver show an amount of \$1,193,432.03 for 1869, against \$555,696.56 for 1868.

The Territory is deficient in manufactures, and any encouragement which the Legislature can give to this department of industry will prove a public benefit. The financial history of all localities will show that no country was ever enriched by the production of raw material for exportation alone; but that manufactures and mines are necessary for the support of a large population, who will consume the agricultural products of the Territory where they are raised.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

As the Territory increases in population, and advances in intelligence, the necessity for some well-digested scheme of public instruction becomes more apparent; there could be no greater inducement offered to attract a desirable eastern and foreign emigration than the fact that we possess a good common school system. Free schools are just as necessary to work out the great problem of popular government as free speech or a free press. The fund provided for schools is, I believe, already ample; but the educational experience of older communities has taught that thorough organization and discipline lies at the foundation of all successful systems of instruction; and in order to secure these it will be necessary to place the schools under the supervision of some person whose experience and capacity will fit him for the task; I would therefore recommend that some provision be made by law for creating the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, who shall be invested with such authority as may be nec-

essary to carry out the intentions of the Legislature, and paid a sufficient salary to assure the services of some person fully competent to discharge the duties of the position. Should the Legislature see proper to adopt this suggestion, I think it would be necessary, in order to assure the efficacy of the system, to make the Territorial Treasurer the custodian of the entire school fund, which shall be disbursed only upon the draft of the Superintendent, under such restrictions as the Legislature may impose. Should the Legislature conclude to maintain a library, the Superintendent of Public Instruction might be made *ex officio* Territorial Librarian. The library, as now constituted, is not creditable to the Territory in any respect; and it had better be either abolished at once, or proper provision made for its care and maintenance.

COMPENSATION OF TERRITORIAL OFFICERS.

The compensation of some of the Territorial officers I regard as insufficient. The salary of the Auditor is one thousand, and that of the Treasurer six hundred dollars a year. The growing responsibility of these offices, and the yearly increasing importance of the public interests committed to their care, demand that the undivided attention of the incumbents should be given to their respective duties; and this cannot be justly exacted without paying them adequate salaries. The munificent compensation paid by the Federal government to their Territorial officers, should furnish an example of liberality to the Legislature in this respect.

If the continuance of the Territorial Assay Office really be for the benefit of the public at large, I cannot understand why the fees received for his labors should not provide ample compensation for that officer. The large salary he now receives, twenty-five hundred dollars *per annum*, is out of proportion with the salaries paid other officers of the Territory; and as assaying is a branch of industry by which many other respectable citizens of the

Territory gain their livelihood, the public assayer ought to be able to find compensation in his fees as others do, who are engaged in the same occupation. If the Legislature decides to continue this office upon its present basis, I would recommend that a branch office be established at Georgetown, and in any other mining district in which the necessity may arise; and the salary and contingent fund appropriated, be distributed among the public assayers of the different districts in proportion to the labor they perform.

I would respectfully call your attention to the fact that, although the law in many instances contemplates the possible removal of certain public officers, yet no power has been vested in the Executive or any other department, by which such removal can be effected for malfeasance, or any other crime except embezzlement. As the law now is, there is nothing to prevent the majority of the Territorial or county officers from discharging the duties, or receiving the pay and emoluments of their offices, even after being convicted and incarcerated for an infamous crime.

ELECTION OF FEDERAL OFFICERS.

While we are compelled to remain in a state of pupillage, I think some concessions might be secured from Congress, which would be for the benefit of our people. This Territory is no longer a wild and remote region, peopled by lawless men, over whom the controlling force of the government is a necessity. The opening of the great continental railway and its branches, has destroyed the distinctive characteristics of the old frontier. The only frontiers we now have, are the frontiers of the Atlantic and Pacific coasts! The changes which ten years have wrought in the character, numbers and intelligence of the population of the Territory, render them fit, I think, to exercise some control over their own affairs. I would therefore recommend that this Legislature memorialize the President and Congress for the passage of a law au-

thorizing the people of the Territory to elect their own Governors and other ministerial officers, and also that the Territorial Delegates be permitted to vote, at least upon all questions directly or indirectly affecting the interests of the Territories. The adoption of the measures I suggest, would only be the application to us of those broad principles which Congress has been asserting in all its legislation for the past four years, viz.: The right of the governed to have a voice in the government. If the right of the people constituting any body politic, to select their own public servants, be a privilege, certainly none are better entitled to that privilege than the men whose sacrifices and successes are written all over every page of the history of every State in the Great West. I do not regard this as a question of any political importance; I simply desire to express my conviction that if we are to be kept any longer in a state of "pupilage," if we are to forever remain organized wards of the government, we are old enough to be treated like well-grown children at least, and entitled to receive some of the privileges which belong to our increasing age, intelligence and respectability. The vote or voice of one Delegate in Congress will never be likely to effect any important revolution in the destinies of the country; but to bestow upon him *a vote*, the ordinary adjunct of manhood outside of the Territories, would give him such additional character and influence with both the ministerial and legislative departments of the general government, as will result in infinite benefit to all the local interests of the Territory.

FEMALE SUFFRAGE.

Before dismissing the subject of franchise, I desire to call your attention to one question connected with it, which you may deem of sufficient importance to demand some consideration at your hands, before the close of the session. Our higher civilization has recognized woman's equality with man in all other respects save one—suffrage.

It has been said that no great reform was ever made without passing through three stages—ridicule, argument and adoption. It rests with you to say whether Colorado will accept this reform in its first stage, as our sister Territory of Wyoming has done, or in the last; whether she will be a leader in the movement or a follower; for the logic of a progressive civilization leads to the inevitable result of a universal suffrage.

RAILROADS.

Since the last meeting of your body, a new element of prosperity has been engrafted upon the Territory. In the first railroad built within our borders, we hail a new source of wealth, prosperity and progress. It has come to us as the bow of promise, spanning the wilderness between us and the East, and casting before it the light of future greatness and future wealth; but to the legislative mind, the advent of these roads will probably only suggest a new element of taxation, and it will be necessary for you to devise some means by which they will be required to bear a fair share of the burdens of the Territorial government. Your experience will suggest the best method of accomplishing this in a just and impartial manner. The Territory owes a debt of gratitude to the men who conceived and executed these great public enterprises, as well as to the government which has so generously endowed them. Every encouragement within the sphere of your legitimate power, should be given to the construction of railways through all parts of the Territory. They will be the iron rivets to strengthen the framework of a future State. The growth of one section is dependent upon the growth of all. We want railroads into our mines, as well as through our valleys; and we can confidently ask at the hands of Congress, new land grants to assist their construction, because in these grants the government has found much profit; and is too wise

and too thrifty to neglect any opportunity for turning an honest penny into the public treasury. As the report of the Secretary of the Interior shows that the land revenues of the government have doubled since the adoption of the land grant policy, which has aided in building railroads, we can, with a good grace, ask Congress to permit us to still further increase the revenues of the general government by accepting a grant at their hands for this object. If it be a public benefit to accept these gratuities at the hands of the government, the people and capitalists of Colorado should be willing to assume their full share of this class of patriotic burdens. In our isolated position the practical organization of a system of railroads, is the only means of assuring our future. The beginning of that system the Territory can already be congratulated upon; and when called to enter the union of States (if that call ever comes), she will go, not in the meagreness of poverty, merely to receive benefits from the new alliance, but rich in flocks and herds; in fruitful vines and yellow crops; her garments bright and heavy with gold and silver, and will take her place as an equal, in every way able to contribute her full share to the public wealth and national power.

EMIGRATION.

For the past two or three years public attention has been especially directed to the great and undeveloped resources of this Territory. Within the past few weeks I have received communications from two German colonies, containing over two hundred families each, and from one containing forty families, informing me of their intention to emigrate here in the Spring. Letters are almost daily received at the Executive office, requesting information as to the agricultural and other resources of the Territory. It is not only our duty to make preparation for the emigration which is coming here next year, but I think it

also our duty to, in some way, collect and disseminate substantial information concerning the capabilities of the country. It is not best for the public press or the public men of any community to hold out false inducements to allure immigration. The reaction against a country is always ruinous when people seeking information concerning it, find that they have been fed on fancies instead of facts; therefore I believe it of vital importance to the future of this Territory, that its resources should be properly represented and thoroughly understood. I am satisfied that they will bear the test of the closest scrutiny, and that its agricultural, mineral and pastoral resources will compare favorably with those of any section of the continent. I would consequently recommend that some provision be made by the Legislature for the publication of all statistics relative to our climate, soil and productions, which might be valuable to those seeking information with a view to emigration.

The success which has attended an emigrant aid system in other portions of the Union, will commend to your consideration the propriety of establishing some system by which a foreign emigration may be brought to the Territory. No American should fear the competition of foreign labor, no matter what that labor may be. The Territory needs muscle, as much as, or more than, capital; and as no man has ever been able to accumulate wealth by the labor of his individual hands, so no community has ever been able to accumulate wealth without an abundance of available labor. Every man who comes here with strong arms and willing hands, no matter what his nationality, adds to the wealth of the community, and should be welcomed. Those new States of the West, like Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota, which have made organized efforts to secure European emigration, have increased in population and wealth beyond all precedent in the history of our country; while California, with all its rare advantages of soil and climate, and wonderful variety of pro-

duction and resources, has been outstripped in the race for population, because secure in the possession of fertile valleys and rich mines, they have made no effort to attract emigration, and it has failed to come without asking. It is our duty to profit by this experience, and establish some system through which our resources may not only be advertised to the world, but by which the immigrant will feel that he is under the protecting care of the Territory, from the moment he leaves his home, until he is settled on a homestead in our midst, or furnished with remunerative labor. It only needs some wise method of encouragement undertaken by the Territory, to fill our fertile valleys with prosperous farmers, and to draw to our mines a population that will lay the foundation of rich and permanent industries, in regions which are as yet almost unknown and undeveloped.

There is one class of foreign immigration which I think would come to us without any other inducement than some assurance that they will be defended in life and property, and that around them will be thrown the full protection of the civil law; I mean the Chinamen! They may be of inferior race, and lower in natural traits than ourselves; they are undoubtedly pagan in religion; but notwithstanding all these moral disabilities, they are exceedingly muscular; and if we can first avail ourselves of their muscle, we can attend to their habits and their morals afterwards. They will supply what this country eminently needs,—an abundance of cheap labor; and as they will come to us in the future anyhow, whether we will or no, we of this generation may as well welcome them, and derive what benefit we can from their labor and their numbers. They are persistent, saving, and industrious; and I firmly believe are the people destined to solve the great problem, as to the future of that vast, unpeopled and unproductive country between the Missouri river and the Pacific ocean.

REPORT OF TERRITORIAL OFFICERS.

I transmit herewith the reports of the several Territorial Officers. Your honorable body will find them to contain much necessary information, and many valuable suggestions; and I regret exceedingly that their authors did not forward them early enough to enable me to avail myself of their contents, in the preparation of my message. As it is impossible for the Executive to communicate to the Legislature the condition of public affairs in a satisfactory and intelligent manner, without first having thoroughly examined the reports of subordinate Territorial officers, I would recommend that these officers be required to furnish copies of their reports to the Executive at least a week before the meeting of the Legislature.

CONCLUSION.

The improved condition of our national affairs; the decrease in the public debt, and the faithful and honest administration of the general government, together with the fact that our Territorial finances, and all the industrial pursuits of the Territory are in so satisfactory a condition, should give us new encouragement, and renewed faith in our destiny. Fruitful as has been the past, the future is still more full of promise. Our successes here have not been the result of fortune alone; for as we grow in years, we have grown in prosperity, through the development of that wealth Providence has so liberally bestowed upon us. What we want now is to identify ourselves entirely with national progress; show our thorough sympathy with the national policy, and holding out the hand of welcome to the impoverished of all nations, and the disheartened of all lands, say to them, Come! Here find rest and homes, among the mountains or in the valleys of our great Territory. Here is a region where the hardships and rigors of an inhospitable climate are unknown! Here a land

unwearied by the burden of ill-constructed laws, or unjust taxation! Here a society untainted by prejudice, and uninfluenced by superstition! The honest efforts of manly industry are rewarded here; and here amid the mountains ribbed with silver, and rich with gold, the goddess Fortune walks among men, distributing her favors with a lavish hand.

In conclusion, permit me to say to you that I believe that in the discharge of our respective official duties, we have nothing to do with the issues which have passed into history except to remember the lessons they teach; surrendering all political prejudices and sacrificing all personal interests to the public good, we have only to do with the progress and advancement of the Territory. To secure this may all your deliberations be guided by wisdom, and may He who controlleth all things, direct your councils for the honor of yourselves, and the prosperity of the people.

EDWARD M. MCCOOK.